



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Raised Bill No. 848

LCO No. 3127



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING POLLING PLACES FOR PRIMARIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-438 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 [In] (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this
4 section, in each municipality or voting district, the polling place or
5 places for [primaries] a primary held under sections 9-382 to 9-450,
6 inclusive, shall be the same as those used for the election to be held.

7 (b) (1) The number of polling places required under subsection (a) of
8 this section may be reduced in accordance with the provisions of this
9 subsection.

10 (2) If the registrars of voters of a municipality agree to reduce the
11 number of polling places, the registrars of voters shall, not later than
12 sixty days prior to a primary held under sections 9-382 to 9-450,
13 inclusive, designate the polling place or places for such primary. Such

14 polling place or places may be the same as or different than the polling
15 places used for the election to be held.

16 (3) Not earlier than sixty days, but not later than forty-five days,
17 prior to such primary, such registrars of voters shall notify the
18 Secretary of the State and the candidates seeking nomination to an
19 office in such primary of the change in the polling place or places. If a
20 candidate petitions for nomination to an office after the registrars of
21 voters have notified candidates of such change, the registrars of voters
22 shall immediately notify the petitioning candidate of such change. If
23 any candidate objects to a change in the polling place or places, the
24 candidate shall notify the Secretary of such objection not later than
25 four o'clock p.m. on the thirtieth day prior to the primary. Such
26 notification from the candidate shall be in the form of a written letter,
27 signed by the candidate, and shall be held confidential by the
28 Secretary. The Secretary shall promptly notify such registrars of voters
29 and each candidate seeking nomination to an office in such primary
30 that the Secretary has received a letter of objection. Such notification
31 shall not identify the candidate who objected. If such a candidate so
32 objects, the polling place or places shall be the same as those used for
33 the election to be held.

34 (4) Not later than twenty-five days prior to such primary, the
35 registrars of voters shall send notification of the polling place for the
36 primary, by mail, to each elector whose polling place for the primary
37 will be different than the elector's polling place for the election. The
38 registrars of voters shall not be required to so notify an elector for any
39 subsequent primary if the primary polling place for such elector
40 remains the same as that provided in the initial notification.

41 (5) If any polling place that would otherwise be open pursuant to
42 subsection (a) of this section is closed pursuant to this subsection, the
43 registrars of voters shall ensure that a sign is posted at such polling
44 place providing electors with information to redirect such electors to
45 the open polling place or places for the primary.

46 (6) Notwithstanding any provision of this title or title 7, any special
 47 act, charter or ordinance, if the number of polling places is reduced
 48 pursuant to the provisions of this subsection, the number of
 49 moderators required for such primary may be reduced, if the registrars
 50 of voters so agree, provided at least one certified moderator serves
 51 each polling place.

52 (c) When unaffiliated electors are authorized under section 9-431 to
 53 vote in the primary of [either] any one of two or more parties, [both] all
 54 such parties shall hold their primaries in the same room of each [such]
 55 polling place.

56 (d) On the day of the primary, the polls shall remain open for voting
 57 from six o'clock a.m. until eight o'clock p.m.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-438
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Statement of Purpose:

To allow municipalities to reduce the number of polling places for primaries.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]